Some instances of Redline buses involved in accidents and violation of traffic rules have come to the notice of the Government. Some Redline bus operators have requested for change/diversion/extension/ of allotted routes.

(b) 813 routes—which have been extended/diverted.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Amending the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958

2892. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make radical changes in Section 21 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) what are the various categories, classified as Indian Shipping Companies, for inclusion in the proposed amendment and the benefits of each envisaged by Government: and

(c) whether Government are also considering to amend the Section 51 of the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

Certain amendments to Section 21 and 51 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 are under process.

Sale of land by Visakhapatnam Port Trust

2893. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Visakhapatnam Port Trust submitted any proposals for sale or hire of land to raise finance;

(b) whether it is fact that Government are encouraging Port Trust to raise funds by selling their land assets; and

(c) if so, the details of proposals submitted or implemente dby Visakhapatnam Port Trust in 1991-92 and 1992-93 in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) There have been no proposals from Visakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) for commercial exploitation of land to raise resources. No such directions to VPT have been given by the Government either. However, in accordance with Govarnment guidelines and under the provisions of Major Port Trust Act, VPT do lease land as may be available with them, generally for port related activities.

Pending proposals of Andhra Pradesh under the Central Road Funds

2894. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Wil the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Prádesh have submitted any proposals for sanction of Rs. 1.20 crores under the Central Road Funds in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these proposals have been sanctioned; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a)